

# We Agree with Speaker Hastert: The Thomas Bill Creates a Better Tax Structure for Manufacturing and Jobs

*We at Merrill Lynch have been urging Congress to address the impact of U.S. tax policy on international competitiveness and to develop tax rules that will strengthen U.S. manufacturers and make our companies more competitive in the global economy.*

*The Senate Finance Committee has approved legislation along these lines, and the House Ways and Means Committee will be considering a proposal developed by Chairman Bill Thomas to accomplish these important goals.*

*Speaker of the House J. Dennis Hastert has endorsed Chairman Thomas' bill, stating that it will "provide additional support for manufacturing and jobs in the United States," and will "create a better tax structure for U.S. manufacturers competing against foreign companies."*

*Speaker Hastert supports "expeditiously moving forward with this legislation." Merrill Lynch agrees and urges the House to support Chairman Thomas' legislation.*

